

Best Of Both Worlds Bulletin September 2008

Things have been developing in a very exciting way for BoBW during 2008, and we feel that the website is becoming established and proving its worth. This bulletin is to keep you abreast of these developments and to seek your help in spreading the awareness of the website and broadening its use.

The BoBW website has recently undergone a major expansion and now includes sections on Cultural and Landscape Heritage alongside Natural Heritage. This follows requests from several stakeholders since the site was launched, and we are grateful in particular to The National Trust which is now represented by Guy Salkeld on the core working group. Guy brings a high level of expertise and experience in the management of cultural heritage sites that has helped enormously with developing the new website material.

We also welcome back William Crookshank of The Environment Agency to the Core Group. William was one of the founders who developed the BoBW concept following the initial CCPR seminar in 2003. The involvement of The Environment Agency in BoBW is very important to us as we are better equipped to deal with water-based activities and issues which have such a focus at this time.

The site looks very similar and works largely as before, but there are new links to Landscape and Cultural Heritage on the Home page. Additional changes and enhancements include:

- Guidance for event organisers and land managers has been expanded, as too has the 'Conflict To Consensus' section.
- The Case Study section has been greatly enlarged and partially re-written and now includes stories relating to trail riding, horse riding, climbing, orienteering, metal detecting, Hadrian's Wall, The New Forest landscape, gill scrambling, canoeing, and water skiing. A study driving from aerial activities is to be added in the near future.
- Some case studies include material to enhance their value to education, through ready-to-print material, commentaries and questions.
- References and links have been updated and rationalised.
- A Welsh version of the entire site is available.

We hope that these enhancements will widen our audience and make the BoBW website even more valuable as a resource to its users. In fact we would very much like to know how you get on with the website and urge all users to provide us with their comments through the Contact Us link, which is to be found at the bottom of each page. Feedback is very important to us, so we urge you to send any comments, suggestions or questions to our email address at contact@bobw.co.uk: it will be carefully read and responded to.

The Core Group is now keen to take their resource to a wider audience, so we are seeking out ways to spread the word. Presentations have been scheduled to the CCPR and the Institute of Outdoor Learning and we would like to know whether your organisation is holding an event where some input about BoBW could be of value.

However, the most effective way of achieving a 'trickle-down' effect throughout organisations is through web links from the websites of stakeholders. If you haven't already done so, please could you consider adding such a link to that of your organisation?

May you enjoy a conflict-free countryside!

Doug Kennedy
Chairman, Best Of Both Worlds